

Army Specialist Abigail Jenks. Specialist Jenks tragically lost her life in an airborne training exercise on Monday, April 19, 2021 at Fort Bragg.

Specialist Jenks was a native of Gansevoort, New York. She graduated from Saratoga Springs High School in 2018 and went on to enlist in the U.S. Army. In June of 2019, Specialist Jenks was assigned as a paratrooper to Fort Bragg, North Carolina. She had previously completed the Basic Airborne Course at Fort Benning, Georgia and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Specialist Jenks was a fire support specialist operating as a forward observer with the brigade's Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division.

Specialist Jenks always knew she wanted to serve her country by enlisting in the Army. As a member of the famed 82nd Airborne Division, she excelled at her role and flourished in the rigorous and demanding environment that serving in our Armed Forces commands. In recognition of her outstanding service, Specialist Jenks was awarded the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, and the Army Parachutist Badge. Now, she will be posthumously awarded the Meritorious Service Medal—a prestigious award only presented to those who distinguish themselves by outstanding meritorious achievement and service to the United States.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am honored to recognize Specialist Abigail Jenks' character, bravery, and remarkable dedication to our country, and I ask this House to remember her sacrifice and legacy forever.

#### CELEBRATING THE CORPUS CHRISTI ARMY DEPOT'S 60TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. MICHAEL CLOUD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2021*

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the Corpus Christi Army Depot (CCAD), which celebrated its 60th anniversary on April 21, 2021. CCAD is the premier rotary winged helicopter repair and maintenance facility for the United States Army. In the midst of a global pandemic, like a battle-hardened soldier, CCAD remains strong, committed, and dedicated to answering the nation's call and keeping the Army flag flying.

Originally named the U.S. Army Transportation Aeronautical Depot Maintenance Center (ARADMAC), CCAD was established on March 10, 1961, and accepted by the U.S. Army on April 21, 1961. Members of CCAD served abroad on the USNS Corpus Christi Bay—formerly the USS Albemarle—during the Vietnam War as the Army's only floating maintenance depot, saving time, money, and lives during the conflict. The names Huey, Chinook, Black Hawk, and Apache evoke memories, pride, and gratefulness to our veterans, active duty, and retired service members and civilians alike, whether in war or peacetime.

The freedom and the security that citizens of the United States enjoy today are a direct

result of the hard work and continuing commitment of CCAD to the mission given by the U.S. Army. Thousands of military, civilian, and contractor employees have walked the halls, worked in the hangars, turned the wrenches, flown the aircraft and dedicated themselves to the operation that began in 1961. The community leaders and citizens of Corpus Christi, Texas, recognize and appreciate the service of all personnel of the Corpus Christi Army Depot, past and present. We salute this great organizations' unending mission.

I wish the Corpus Christi Army Depot a happy 60th birthday.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF FORMER SPEAKER JOE TAITANO SAN AGUSTIN

### HON. MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2021*

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker. I rise today to honor the life and legacy of former Speaker Joe Taitano San Agustin. Speaker San Agustin was a devoted public servant, political pioneer, and a true advocate for the people of Guam. Our community will fondly remember him as a compassionate leader who dedicated his entire life to uplifting others and realizing a more prosperous Guam.

When Congress issued legislation in 1968, which provided for the first popular election of the governor and lieutenant governor of Guam, Speaker San Agustin was instrumental in launching Guam's transition into self-governance. He served as the director of administration to both the last appointed and first elected governors of Guam, and by 1976, he was elected to serve as a senator in the 14th Legislature of Guam, where he made strides in economic development and the protection of public finances for two decades. Throughout his ten terms in office, he also served as speaker of the 20th, 21st, and 22nd legislatures, and following his departure from the chamber, his service continued to prove valuable as chairman of the Democratic Party of Guam from 1997 to 2001.

Speaker San Agustin's contributions toward a greater quality of life for the island's residents extended beyond traditional politics, and continue to echo in today's age. Building strongholds for our community, he notably, led twenty government employees in donating to establish the Government of Guam Federal Credit Union in 1962 and went on to serve on the board of directors for the Bank of Guam. He also fought for retirement security as chairman of the Government of Guam Retirement Fund Board and served as the executive director of the Guam Base Reuse and Closure Office.

Speaker San Agustin was an esteemed leader and advocate who dedicated his entire life to public service. His career illustrates a remarkable fidelity to just and meaningful change, and his countless contributions to our systems of governance and historic policy continue to inspire many in our community. Speaker San Agustin served with my grandfather during their time in the legislature, and I am deeply saddened by his passing. My family and I wish to extend our hearts and prayers for him and his family, and I join the

people of Guam in remembering and celebrating his life and legacy of selfless service. Our island has lost an icon, but we know he is happy with Auntie May. He will be deeply missed, and his love and memories will forever remain in the hearts of the people of Guam.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 77TH ANNIVERSARY OF EXERCISE TIGER

### HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2021*

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, it is with a deep and poignant gratitude that I rise today to celebrate the American heroes who lost their lives seventy-seven years ago during Exercise Tiger. Paving the way for the D-Day invasion that would take place on June 6, 1944, Exercise Tiger, while once kept secret, is now regarded as having been both a tragedy and a critically instructive component of the Allies' mission to end World War II. The lives lost on that fateful day were honored by the soldiers who learned from Exercise Tiger and carried their memory into battle during the liberation of France. It is a story we must never allow ourselves to forget.

Before the assembled British, Canadian, and American forces could carry out the D-Day invasion, 4,000 soldiers conducted a massive simulated landing to rehearse and prepare for that immeasurably vital military act. However, what started as a military exercise ended as one of the greatest military tragedies of World War II. The calm, dark night of April 28, 1944, burst into chaos and combat when German U-boats ambushed the Tank Landing Ships (LSTs) transporting American soldiers. Almost 750 American servicemen, including over 200 Missourians, would give their last full measure of devotion when their vessels were either destroyed or severely damaged. But Allied forces would not be deterred, as the brave soldiers on those vessels banded together to repel enemy attacks and move forward with their mission. Even in the face of immense loss, a well-equipped enemy force, and little help from nearby Allied forces, the tenacity and determination of the soldiers and sailors involved ensured that the landing operations would continue mere hours after the initial attack. Allied Commanders planning the eventual D-Day invasion learned from Exercise Tiger and incorporated new strategies to ensure soldiers would be protected from barrage before landing on the beach. Without the bravery of the forces that fought that day, it is possible that even more American, Canadian, and British lives would have been lost on D-Day, and that the invasion of France, which hinged on secrecy, speed, and synchronicity, would have failed. It is not hyperbole to say that the soldiers and sailors of Exercise Tiger changed the course of world history and that we are forever indebted to their sacrifice.

It is a time-honored tradition in the United States for us to gather and celebrate the heroism and sacrifices of the countless fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, and children who have died to protect our nation from foreign and domestic threats. On the last Monday of May, thousands congregate to quietly observe and remember the names found on marble